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Brown, of Halifax, accompanying a topographical description of Nova Scotia; from Rev. Mr. Spark, of Quebec, accompanying several pamphlets; and from Ebenezer Hazard, Esq., offering to sell Dunlap's newspapers to the Society, were read.

The Rev. JOHN JONES SPOONER was chosen a Corresponding Member.

Voted, That the Librarian be requested to receive immediately from the printers such newspapers as are presented by them to the Society, and to take charge of those which are now in the hands of Mr. Wallcut.

Voted, That Messrs. Wetmore, Freeman, Belknap, and Dexter be a committee for superintending the publications for the year 1794.

Voted, That the members of the Society be enjoined to return to the Library all the books now in their possession, within a fortnight from the present time.

SPECIAL MEETING, JANUARY, 1794.

At a special meeting of the Historical Society, held at the President's house, on Friday, the tenth day of January, 1794, —

A letter from Messrs. Scollay, Bulfinch, & Vaughan,

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lar nature might "turn up" in that region. In a letter to Dr. Belknap, on file, dated Aug. 5, 1793, acknowledging the receipt of his letter of June 4, Mr. Clarke says: "You judge right in supposing I am a New England man, and that I am so in heart I readily confess; and, perhaps, no descendant of the first settlers . . . can feel stronger attachments or a more sincere solicitude for its prosperity than I do. I am making every inquiry for whatever may contribute to the very interesting views of your Society. At Shelburne several persons are settled; and, like many others, in the paroxysm of political madness, probably did that which in their cooler moments they would be ashamed of, when Boston was evacuated. I do hope something may be found that will be useful." — EDS.

offering an apartment in the Crescent for the use of the Society, was read. Whereupon,

Voted, That the offer be accepted, and the thanks of the Society be presented by the President to Messrs. Scollay, Bulfinch, and Vaughan for their generous donation.*

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* The following is the letter of Mr. Scollay and his associates, after which come Judge Sullivan's answer and acknowledgment: —

"BOSTON, Dec. 31, 1793.

"SIR, — In erecting the centre building of the Crescent, it was our intention to accommodate the Historical Society with a convenient room. We now request you to communicate to the Society, at their next meeting, our offer of the upper apartment, in its present state, with the addition of stairs and windows.

"If our offer is accepted, we wish you to furnish us with a proper form of conveyance, which shall be executed immediately.

"W. SCOLLAY.
CHARLES BULFINCH.
CHARLES VAUGHAN.

"Hon. JAMES SULLIVAN, Esq.,
President of the Historical Society."

"BOSTON, Jan. 11, 1794.

"GENTLEMEN, — Your obliging letter of the 31st of December last, offering to the Massachusetts Historical Society a room in the centre building of the Crescent, I have communicated to the Society. That association had its origin in a sincere wish to promote the honor and happiness of United America, and the labor of its members has been, and now is, employed with unremitting zeal and industry in collecting and preserving those materials which will give a foundation to a political, as well as a natural, history of the country. Our fellow-citizens, recognizing the utility of our plan, have been very liberal and assiduous in yielding us assistance and support. By these means we have amassed a great number of books, printed productions, ancient manuscripts, and natural curiosities. The government of this Commonwealth has directed the Secretary to deliver us copies of public proceedings; and we hope that the general and other governments will afford us aid and countenance in the same manner.

"Thus situated, and with these prospects, nothing could be more congenial to our wishes, or acceptable to our interest, than the generous offer you have made. We derive no small degree of pleasure from the consideration that the donation is made by gentlemen whose feelings for the public interest, and taste for architecture, have ornamented the capital with buildings so exceedingly elegant as the Crescent.

"I am directed by the Society, of which I have the honor of being President, to present to you their most cordial thanks for this mark of respect to

Voted, That the President, the Treasurer, and Mr. Wetmore be a committee to prepare a proper form of conveyance of said apartment to the Society.

Voted, That the Treasurer, and Messrs. Freeman and Minot be a committee to attend to the finishing of the said apartment in a plain, economical style.

The following was read: —

"COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

"SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Dec. 3, 1793.

"MESSRS. ADAMS AND LARKIN, — Deliver to the Recording Secretary of the Historical Society one set of all the Laws, Resolves, Journals, Tax Acts, Proclamations, and other doings of Government, which shall be, or may have been, printed by you since the 28th of March, 1793. Also, any of the Laws, Journals, or Resolves of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, since the Revolution, which you may have in your office.

(Signed) "JOHN AVERY, Jr., Sec."

Nomination: Winthrop Sargent, Esq., Secretary of the Government north-west of the Ohio, by the Rev. Dr. Belknap.

Voted, That the Committee appointed Jan. 29, 1793, to consider the expediency of applying to the General Court for an act of incorporation, be directed to petition the Legislature at their next session, and to bring in a bill for that purpose.

Voted, That the nomination of Resident Members made at the last meeting stand over to the next meeting.

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their institution, and to assure you that a grateful sense of your generosity and goodness shall be preserved until the Society shall cease to exist.

"I have the honor to be, gentlemen, with sentiments of respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

"JAMES SULLIVAN.

"WILLIAM SCOLLAY,
CHARLES BULFINCH, } Esquires."
CHARLES VAUGHAN,

EDS.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Thomas Pemberton for his Journal of the American War, which has been printed in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, on Tuesday, the twenty-eighth day of January, 1794, —

The following communications were made: —

A Topographical Description of Wells, in the County of York, by Hon. Nathaniel Wells, Esq.*

A Bill of Mortality for Edgartown, by Rev. Joseph Thaxter.

The following donations were received: —

For the Library: —

A number of volumes of Resolves of the Legislature of Massachusetts, and Journals of the two Houses. Presented by the Secretary, by order of the General Court.

Journals of Congress for 1777, and Prices of Silver Money the present century. From Dr. Noyes.

Smith's History of New York, The American Recorder for 1785 and 1786, and The Massachusetts Spy for 1781. From Mr. Eben. Larkin.

Laws and Regulations of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society. From Dr. Dexter.

Mœurs des Sauvages Amériquains, 4 tomes, par le P. Lafitau. From Rev. Mr. Barnard, of Salem.

Histoire de la Nouvelle France, 3 tomes, 4to, par Charlevoix. From Leonard Jarvis, Esq.

Charts of Universal History, by Fra. Tallents, olim Coll. Magd. Cant. Soc. From Captain Silas Jones, of Nantucket.

Heylin's Cosmography, from Mr. Thomas Hancock.

Independent Chronicle for 1793, from Mr. Thomas Adams.

Columbian Centinel for 1793, from Captain Benjamin Russell.

Mercury, till September, 1793, from Mr. A. Young.

Worcester Gazette for 1793, from Isaiah Thomas, Esq.

For the Cabinet: —

The Horn of an Antelope, and a beautiful Univalve Shell from the coast of Africa. From Mr. Nathaniel Torrey.

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* This was printed in Vol. III. of the Collections. — EDS.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to the above gentlemen for their donations.

WINTHROP SARGENT, Esq., was chosen a Corresponding Member.

The Rev. John Clarke, of Boston, having signified his desire to subscribe a guinea for the finishing of the Society's Room in the Crescent, —

Voted, That his donation be accepted, and that the thanks of the Society be presented to him by the Corresponding Secretary.

Voted, That the Society will not act at present upon the nominations of Resident Members made at the meeting in November.

The following letters were read: —

From Mr. Thomas Hancock, accompanying Heylin's Cosmography.

From Nathaniel Adams, Esq., of Portsmouth, containing some geographical particulars relating to New Hampshire.

From Rev. Enos Hitchcock, D.D., informing that there are some ancient original letters of Roger Williams, and his transactions with the Indians, in the office of the Town-Clerk of Providence.

Dr. BELKNAP reported a memorial to Congress, soliciting the donation of printed Acts, Journals, &c., sent to Peleg Coffin, Esq., to be presented.*

Voted, That Dr. Belknap, Dr. Cutler, and Dr. Dexter be a committee to make additions to the Circular Letter, in which they will solicit donations for the Cabinet, give directions for the necessary preservation of the several objects of natural history, and request further information on that subject.

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* A copy of this memorial of the President and Corresponding Secretary is in the Letter-book of the Society, in the handwriting of the latter; also, a copy of the letter to Mr. Coffin, in which it was enclosed. — EDS.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four.

An Act to incorporate a Society by the name of the Massachusetts Historical Society.*

Whereas the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D.D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, LL.D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, Jr., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D.D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be and hereby are formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the Massachusetts Historical Society; and that they, and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected

* This Act of Incorporation, and the notice of the President to the members of the Society to meet on the 4th of April, and organize under it, are both entered in this place. They apparently form no part of the record of that meeting, though each must then have been read, and the Act formally or tacitly adopted. — Eds.

by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name, for ever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same or any part thereof to alien and convey: Provided, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the number of members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (excepting honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and he hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Pursuant to an Act of the said Commonwealth, passed on the 19th of February, 1794, entitled, "An Act to incorporate a Society by the name of the Massachusetts Historical Society," the members of said Society are hereby notified to meet at the Senate Chamber in Boston, on Friday, the fourth day of April next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, to choose a President and other officers, and also to agree on a method for calling future meetings.

JAMES SULLIVAN.

BOSTON, March 8, 1794.

SPECIAL MEETING.

In consequence of the above notification, the Society met at the Senate Chamber, in Boston, on Friday, the fourth day of April, 1794, and made choice of the following gentlemen as officers for the year ensuing: —

HON. JAMES SULLIVAN, ESQ.	PRESIDENT.
WILLIAM TUDOR, ESQ.	TREASURER.
REV. JEREMY BELKNAP, D.D.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
MR. JAMES FREEMAN	RECORDING SECRETARY.
HON. GEO. RICHARDS MINOT, ESQ.	LIBRARIAN.
MR. SAMUEL TURELL	KEEPER OF THE CABINET.
HON. JAMES WINTHROP, ESQ.	STANDING COMMITTEE.
REV. PETER THACHER, D.D.	
DR. REDFORD WEBSTER	

FAC-SIMILE OF HAND WRITING OF JAMES SULLIVAN.

Boston 4th April 1794

Gentlemen

Some years ago I began to prepare a history of what is now the district of main. I had no idea of deriving any pecuniary interest to myself by the labour neces to the work. It is now completed, a the Printer having engaged to pay me two hundred dollars for the copy right I have concluded to assign it over for the benefit of the historical society. The security with a proper transfer is inclosed and I have no favour to wish but that no publick notice may be taken of it, and that it

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Most humble Servt

J. Sullivan

The Members of the
Massachusetts Historical Society

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Ja Sullivan

The Members of the
Massachusetts Historical Society

Voted, That Hon. J. Sullivan, Esq., William Tudor, Esq., and Rev. Mr. Eliot be a committee to draft and report bye-laws and orders for the regulation of this Society.

Voted, That the Treasurer be directed to call upon the members for the assessments due from them severally.

Voted, That the President, the Treasurer, and the Librarian be a committee to wait upon Messrs. Scollay, Bulfinch, and Vaughan, and receive from them a deed of the room in the Crescent.*

A letter from the President was read, in which he informs the Society that he has sold the copyright of a book, entitled "The History of the District of Maine," for the sum of two hundred dollars, which he requests the Society to accept.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the President for his donation.

Voted, That the Committee appointed to make additions to the Circular Letter have leave to sit again.

Voted, That twelve copies of the Historical Journal of the American War be presented to Mr. Pemberton.

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* The following is the substance of the deed, executed May 1, 1794, and recorded in the Suffolk Registry, Book 179, p. 98: —

"Know all men by these presents, that we, Charles Vaughan, William Scollay, and Charles Bulfinch, all of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, Esquires, for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings lawful money to us in hand paid by the Massachusetts Historical Society, but more especially for the promotion of the designs of the said Society, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto the said Society, and to their successors for ever, the upper apartment or room in the centre building in Franklin Place, in said Boston, called the Crescent, together with the passage-way or staircase leading to the same, to have and to hold the aforegranted premises, with the privileges and appurtenances thereof, unto the said Massachusetts Historical Society and to their successors, to their only use and benefit, for ever."

The above-mentioned apartment was forty feet in length and twenty-seven feet in breadth. It was to be finished at the expense of the Society. This apartment was occupied by them until 1833. The Boston Library Society, incorporated in 1794, occupied the first room over the arch, directly underneath that assigned to the Historical Society, for even a longer period, entering upon it the same year. — Eds.

Voted, That the members be enjoined to return all the books in their possession on or before the fifteenth day of May, and that public notice be given in the newspapers.

The following donations were received: —

For the Library: —

Two bound Books and eight Pamphlets, from William T. Clap.

Several valuable Pamphlets, from Mr. Gardiner Baker, of New York.

Lovell's History of Minerals, from Dr. Peters.

Barton's Observations in Natural History, and Transactions of the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia. Three volumes. From Dr. Benjamin S. Barton, of Philadelphia.

Minsheu's Ductor in Linguas, from J. S. H.

A large number of Pamphlets, from Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq.

Belknap's American Biography. Vol. I. From the author.

Secretary Popple's large Map of North America, from Mr. Benjamin Larkin.

Memoirs of the American Academy. One volume. From Major Joseph May.

For the Cabinet: —

A War Club from Oronoque, from Captain T. Powers.

A specimen of Lapis Caliminaris from Virginia, from Mr. Joshua Witherlee.

Several articles for the Museum, from D. A. Tyng, Esq.

Two specimens of the Atherine, from Mr. William D. Peck.

An Inkstand, made of a petrifaction taken from the Devil's Hole in Gibraltar, and twenty-six Silver Coins and one Copper Coin, from Major Joseph May.

Voted, That the Society accept Major May's donation upon the conditions annexed, — that of paying the weight in silver for six other coins.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to those gentlemen who have made donations.

The following letters were read: —

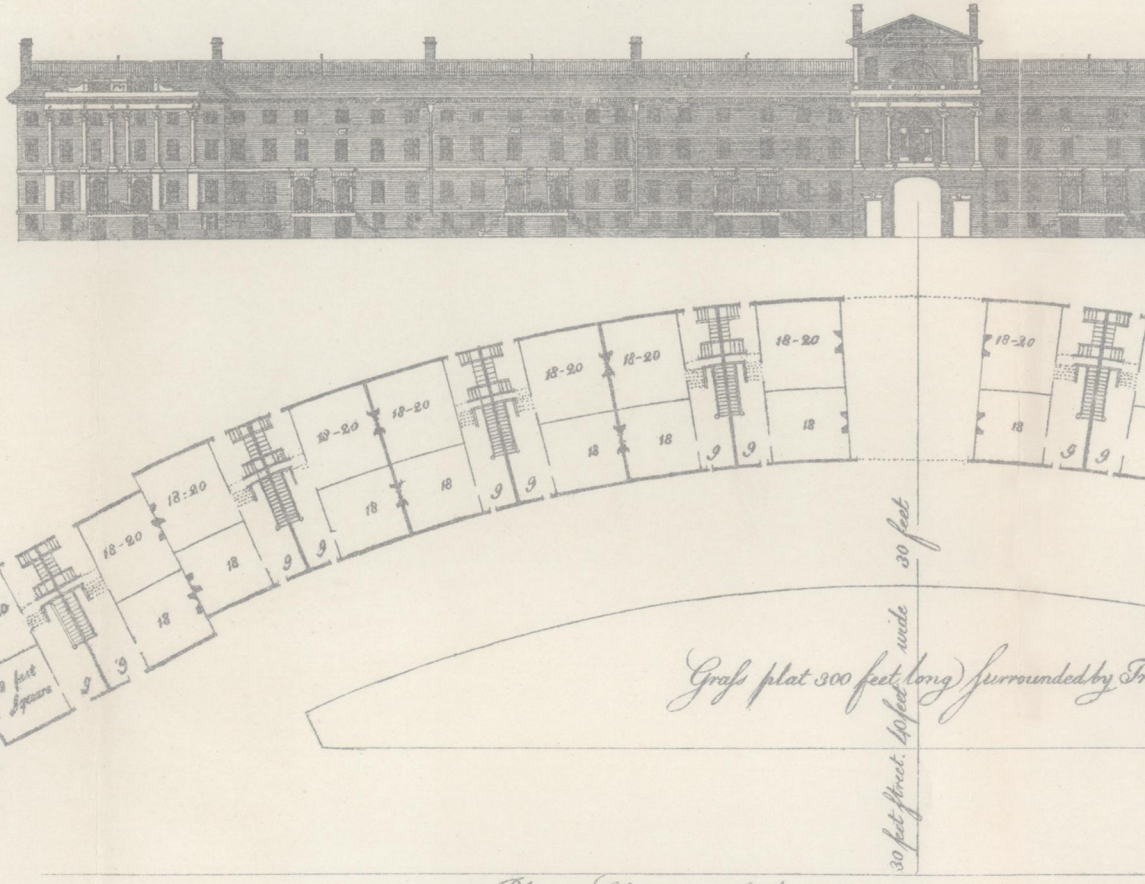
From Mr. Tyng, relating to his donation.

From Peleg Coffin, Esq., informing that he has not presented the Society's petition to Congress, but that the Secretary will supply any books or papers which may be wanted.

From Dr. Peters, accompanying his donation.

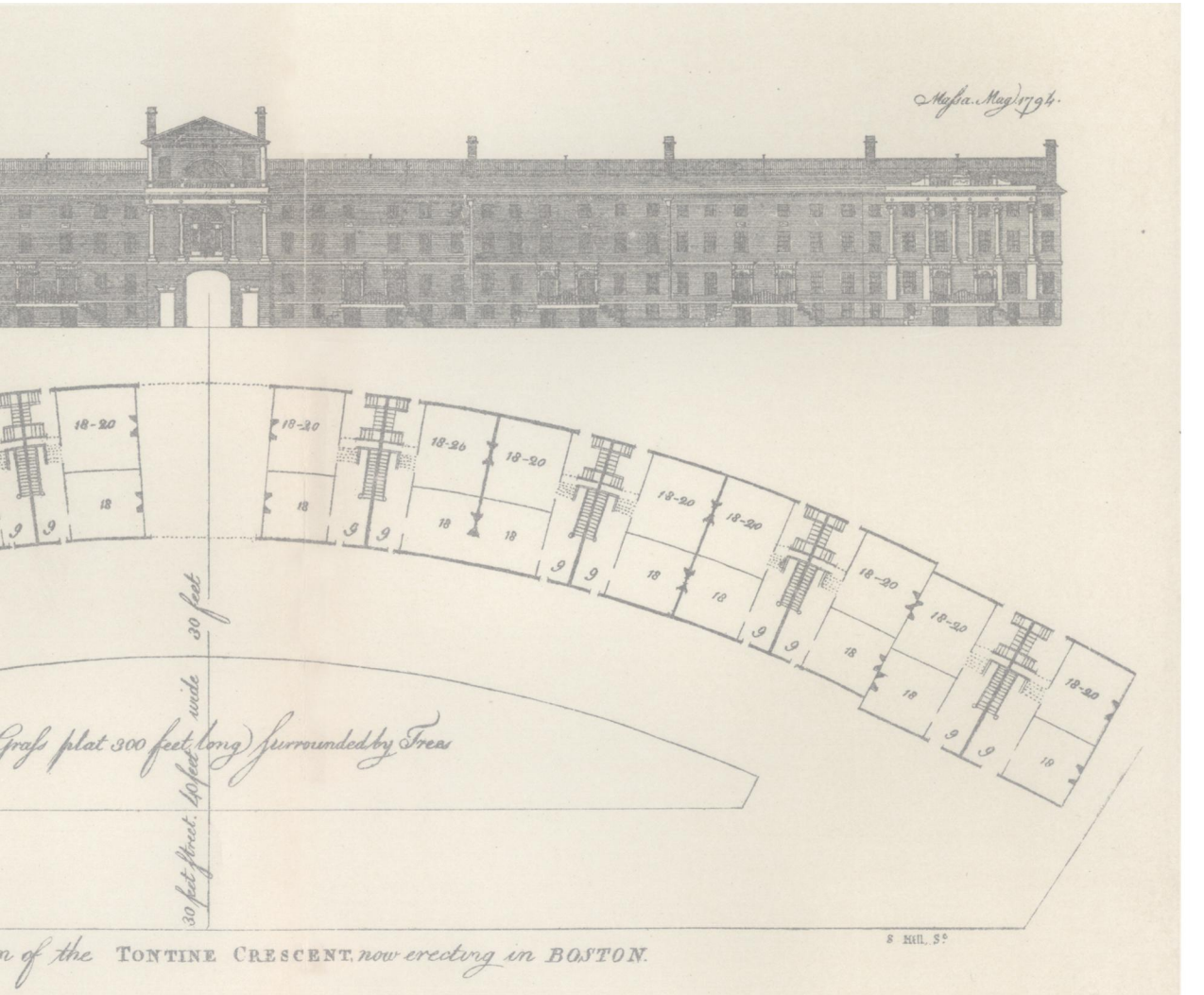
From Winthrop Sargent, Esq., accepting his election.

The meeting was then adjourned to Wednesday, eleventh day of June, to meet at the Room of the Society.



Plan & Elevation of the TONTINE CRESCENT, now er

THE HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO. 220 DEVONSHIRE ST. BOSTON.



n of the TONTINE CRESCENT, now erecting in BOSTON.

ADJOURNED MEETING.

At a meeting of the Society, held, by adjournment, at the new room in the Tontine Crescent, on Wednesday, the eleventh day of June, 1794, —

The Committee, chosen in January to make additions to the Circular Letter, reported a new Circular Letter, which was read and accepted.

Voted, That the Circular Letter be printed in the Collections, and that five hundred additional copies be struck off for the use and at the expense of the Society.*

The following donations were received: —

For the Collections: † —

A Topographical Description of Machias, by John Cooper, Esq.

A Topographical Description of Topsham, by Rev. Jonathan Ellis.

An Additional Account of Middleborough, by Rev. Isaac Backus.

Copy of a letter from Granville Sharp to the late Dr. Franklin, on the subject of American Bishops. Communicated by Rev. Isaac Backus.

For the Library: —

A collection of Pamphlets and Manuscripts from the papers of the late Hon. John Erving, Esq., from Mr. John Erving, Jr.

The first volume of an American Geography, written in the German language, and printed at Hamburgh, from the author, Professor Ebeling.

A large and valuable collection of Official Papers during the American Revolution, made by the late Governor Trumbull, of Connecticut, and presented in the name of his heirs by his son, David Trumbull, Esq.

A collection of Pamphlets, and three Historical MSS., relative to the town of Marblehead, copied from the papers of the late Isaac Mansfield, Esq., from Rev. Isaac Mansfield.‡

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* A Circular Letter had been already twice issued by the Society; and one, newly written, was issued in June of this year (1794), in a pamphlet form, with the Act of Incorporation, &c., and entitled, "The Act of Incorporation, the Laws, and the Circular Letter of the Massachusetts Historical Society. With an Appendix," &c. The whole was prefixed to Vol. IV. of the Collections, published in the following year. — Eds.

† These several manuscript papers are printed in Vol. III. of the Collections. — Eds.

‡ See Vol. VIII. of the Collections, 54–78. — Eds.

Kennett's Roman Antiquities, and two volumes of Debates in the Convention of Virginia, 1788, from Mr. Job Wheelwright, Jr.

The Book of Psalms, and the whole New Testament, in Rich's Shorthand, from Rev. Isaac Story.

The History of the County of Worcester, from the author, Rev. Peter Whitney.

Several Pamphlets, from Mr. Abraham Adams.

Courier de Boston, from M. Rollin.

A number of Pamphlets, from Dudley A. Tyng, Esq.

Mather's Magnalia, from Samuel Sewall, Esq.

Rowley's Poems, from Mr. Thomas Pemberton.

Rutherford on Church Government, from Mr. Joseph Brown.

A collection of Pamphlets and a number of Newspapers, from Mr. Joseph Whitney.

Five valuable Historical Pamphlets, from Robert Breck, Esq.

Increase Mather's Sermons to the Present and Succeeding Generations, from Mr. John Allen.

Eleven bound Books and twenty-five Pamphlets, from Colonel Jabez Hatch.

Four bound Books and forty-eight Pamphlets, from Joseph Gardner, Esq.

The London Gazette for 1690, from Mr. Samuel Hewes.

A number of Books, Pamphlets, Papers, and Maps, from Mr. Samuel Turell.

For the Cabinet: —

A Flying Fish, a Vitriol Stone, an Ermine from New Hampshire, an Indian Canoe, a number of Coins, a Globe-fish from the island of St. Helena, and a Dolphin. From Rev. Dr. Belknap.

A Bow and Arrow, &c., from the north-west coast of America, from Captain Robert Gray.

An Indian Mortar and Pestle, Corallines from the island of Nicobar, Chinese Money Scales, and a number of Copper and Silver Coins. From Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq.

A Button, made of the lava of Mount Vesuvius, from George Richards Minot, Esq.

A Madagascar Bat, from Dr. Dexter.

A Centipede, from Mr. Samuel Sumner.

Letters read: —

From David Trumbull, Esq., offering the valuable papers of his father, and desiring that the Society would send some person to make a selection of those which may be proper for their use.*

Voted, That the offer be accepted, and that the Corresponding Secretary be requested to write a letter of thanks to David Trumbull, Esq., in the name of the Society, and inform him that a suitable person will be sent to Connecticut as soon as possible to make a selection.

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* David Trumbull's letter, dated Lebanon, 15th April, 1794, is printed in 4 Collections, II. 240. — EDS.

Mrs. Hancock having made an offer to the Society of such books, pamphlets, and papers, the property of the late Governor Hancock, as the Society may think proper to select, —

Voted, That Dr. Thacher return the thanks of the Society to Mrs. Hancock for her generous offer, and that he be requested to make a selection for the use of the Society.

Voted, That Messrs. Pemberton, Eliot, and Webster be a committee to wait upon Mr. Crocker, and make a selection from his library of such books, pamphlets, and papers as he may be pleased to give the Society.

Nomination: Professor Ebeling, of Hamburgh, a Corresponding Member, by Rev. Dr. Belknap.

Voted, That a copy of the Historical Collections of the Society be sent to Professor Ebeling by the Corresponding Secretary.

The Committee appointed to revise and report Rules and Regulations to be established by the Society, reported a number of articles, which, after sundry alterations and amendments, were adopted, and are as follows: —

Laws and Regulations of the Massachusetts Historical Society, incorporated Feb. 19, 1794.

ARTICLE I. — Each member, at the time of his admission, shall pay eight dollars, and two dollars annually, to create a fund for the benefit of the institution. And any member shall be exempted from the annual payment of two dollars, provided he shall, at any time after six months from his admission, pay to the Treasurer thirty-four dollars, in addition to what he had before paid.

ART. II. — All elections shall be made by ballot. No member shall nominate more than one candidate at the same

meeting; and all nominations shall be made at a meeting previous to that at which the ballot is to be taken.

ART. III. — There shall be four stated meetings of the Society in each year; namely, on the last Tuesdays of January, April, July, and October: and occasional meetings shall be convened on due notification by the President, or, in case of his absence, by one of the Secretaries, on the application of any two of the members.*

ART. IV. — There shall be annually chosen, at the meeting in April, a President, a Recording and [a] Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, a Cabinetkeeper, and a standing committee of three.

ART. V. — At the request of any two members present, any motion shall be deferred to another meeting for farther consideration before it is finally determined upon, and shall then be taken up.

ART. VI. — All accounts shall be kept in dollars and cents.

ART. VII. — Five members present shall be a quorum for all purposes, excepting those of making alterations in, or additions to, the Laws and Regulations of this Society, and the election of members.

ART. VIII. — No member shall be chosen unless there are nine members present at the election, and unless two-thirds of the members present vote for his admission.

ART. IX. — Members who are chosen in other States and countries shall not be required to make contribution with the members who are citizens of the Commonwealth.

Laws regulating the Standing Committee.

ARTICLE I. — The Standing Committee shall regulate all the common expenses of the Society, and make the necessary

* On July 26, 1796, this clause was amended, providing that the July quarterly meeting should be held on the day after Commencement. — EDS.

provision of such small articles as may from time to time be wanted, and shall have power to draw on the Treasurer to defray the expense.

ART. II. — They shall aid the Librarian and Cabinet-keeper, when they shall require it, in the arrangement of the books, pamphlets, maps, and manuscripts, and in the disposition of curiosities and articles belonging to the cabinet, and especially attend to the preservation and binding of the books and pamphlets.

ART. III. — They shall frequently inspect the Records, and inquire whether all the orders of the Society are carried into effect with precision and promptitude.

ART. IV. — They shall inquire after and endeavor to obtain, on the best terms, for the benefit of the Society, manuscripts, books, and articles of curiosity.

ART. V. — They shall meet in the week previous to the stated quarterly meeting of the Society, and arrange and prepare such business as may be a subject for the Society's attention. The Recording Secretary shall notify the Standing Committee of the stated meetings.

Laws regulating the Library and Museum.

ARTICLE I. — All books which are presented to the Library shall be accepted with thanks, and also every curiosity for the Museum.

ART. II. — American coins and curiosities shall be kept by themselves, in the best part of the cabinet.

ART. III. — At every quarterly meeting a catalogue of the books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and maps shall be produced by the Librarian, and a catalogue of the curiosities by the Cabinet-keeper; and every member shall, in person, if present, and in writing, if absent, give an account of the books and manuscripts, or whatever article belonging to the Society, he may have in his possession.

ART. IV. — Once in every year, previous to the spring meeting, the Standing Committee shall inspect the Library and Museum, and report the state of every article at that meeting, and what books are particularly wanted.

ART. V. — There shall be two keys to the Society's room, one of which shall be kept by the Librarian, and the other by the Cabinet-keeper, to be by them delivered to no person except one of the members.

ART. VI. — Each member shall give receipts for the books which he shall take out of the Library, in a receipt-book to be provided for that purpose. He shall be under obligation to return each book within three months after receiving the same, and shall not have more than three books at a time, unless by special leave obtained by a vote of the Society. No manuscript shall be taken out of the Library but in the presence of the Librarian, a receipt and obligation being given to return it within the space of three months.

ART. VII. — The sixth article shall not prevent the Committee annually chosen to superintend the publications of the Society from taking out of the Library as many books and papers as they may want, they giving a receipt for the same, as provided in that article.

ART. VIII. — If books or manuscripts be requested for public uses, or for the peculiar benefit of persons whom the Society is disposed to oblige, the application shall be made to the Librarian, through the medium of some member, who shall be responsible in a written obligation for the return of each article borrowed, within such time as shall be stipulated by the Librarian, not exceeding three months, and shall be accountable for all loss and damage.

ART. IX. — Every book lost shall be replaced by the person who shall have lost the same, if it can be procured; and, if not, another equally valuable shall be accepted to supply the vacancy.

ART. X. — All pamphlets shall be bound, except dupli-

cates, which shall be kept by themselves, and triplicates shall be exchanged.

ART. XI. — All manuscripts shall be distinctly marked and numbered, and kept in cases of paper, which shall also be numbered, and the contents of each registered.

ART. XII. — Every present received shall be recorded, and an account of it rendered at the next meeting of the Society.

ART. XIII. — A printed ticket shall be pasted on the inside of the cover of each book, signifying that it is the property of the Society; and also the name of the donor, if it be a present.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, on Tuesday, the twenty-ninth day of July, 1794, —

The following donations were received: —

For the Collections: * —

A Topographical Description of Raynham, with Biographical Anecdotes of the Family of Leonard, by Rev. Dr. Fobes.

A Topographical Description and Biographical Anecdotes respecting Sandwich and Mashpee, by Rev. Gideon Hawley.

For the Library: —

A second parcel of Pamphlets, &c., from John Erving, Esq.

Hennepin's Discoveries in America, and one volume of Oldmixon's British Empire in America, from Captain Benjamin Homans.

Miller's Synopsis of Fossils and Minerals, from Governor Wentworth, of Nova Scotia.

One printed Sermon and two MSS., from Rev. Isaac Mansfield.

A MS. Sermon, preached in the reign of George I., in which the wicked kings of Israel are compared to the British kings of the Stuart family, from Mr. Allen Crocker.

A MS. Journal of a Gentleman in Boston, from the year 1729 to the year 1749, from Mr. Joshua Green.

Lee's Contemplations on Mortality, and Pliny's Natural History, from Rev. John Clarke.

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* These two papers are printed in Vol. III. of the Collections. — EDS.

Several Pamphlets, from Nathaniel Appleton, Esq.
Several Pamphlets, from Colonel Gridley.
Several Newspapers, from Mr. James White.

For the Cabinet: —

A Silver Medal, struck at the Restoration of King Charles II., from Mr. Edward Davis.
A piece of Crystalline Spar, taken from Pope's Grotto at Twickenham, from Dr. Peters.
A Pod of Cocoa, from Mr. Jonas Welsh.
One Land Bank Bill, 1740, and two Province Bills of Massachusetts, 1737 and 1740, from Major Joseph May.

For the Society's Room: —

A large Writing Desk and Frame, from Mr. Francis Wright.
A Trunk, from Mr. Samuel Clap.

Letters read: —

From Nathaniel Appleton, Esq., Rev. Isaac Mansfield, Robert Breck, Esq., and Mr. Benjamin Homans, Jr., accompanying their donations.

From the Corresponding Secretary to David Trumbull, Esq., thanking him and family for their donation.*

From the Corresponding Secretary to William Wetmore, Esq., now in Connecticut, requesting him to make a selection from the late Governor Trumbull's library.

From Edmund Randolph, Secretary of State, promising to procure from the public archives any documents which the Society may want.

The Corresponding Secretary's answer, pointing out what papers are requested by the Society.

From Mr. Peck, informing that those parts of the Circular Letter attributed to him, except the method of taking impressions of vegetable leaves by means of smoke, were borrowed, and desiring that a note to that purpose may be inserted in the next number of the Collections.

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* Copies of this and the following letter, the former dated June 12, and the latter June 11, are preserved in the Letter-book of the Society. It seems not to have been convenient for Mr. Wetmore to comply with the request of the Society; for, on the 15th of the following April, Dr. Belknap was requested, by a vote of the Society, to go to Lebanon to select the papers. — EDS.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, on Tuesday, the twenty-eighth day of October, 1794, —

The following donations were received: —

For the Collections: * —

History of Indian Wars, in MS., by Rev. Samuel Niles, late of Braintree. Presented by Hon. Samuel Niles, of Lebanon.

A Letter from Rev. Gideon Hawley, of Mashpee, containing an account of his journey into the Indian country.

A Letter from Levi Whitman, containing topographical remarks on Cape Cod.

A Topographical Description of Hopkinton, by Dr. Jeremy Stimson.

A Topographical Description of Thomaston, by Dr. Samuel Jennison.

For the Library: —

General Dumourier's Memoirs, written by himself, from Mr. Thomas Peironnet, of Portland.

The Antiquities of Warwickshire, from Mr. Abner Rumrill.

Several Pamphlets, from Mr. John Tileston.

Penhallow's History of Indian Wars, and a number of other Books and Pamphlets, from Mr. John Popkin, Jr.

Sparrow's Collection of Articles, Canons, Orders, &c., from Edward VI. to King James; Robinson's Justification of Separation from the Church of England; Hooker and Cotton's Survey of the Sum of Church Discipline; Life of John Milton (anonymous); and Six Sermons by Dr. Lathrop. From Dr. Lathrop, of Boston.

Nine Pamphlets, from Deacon Benjamin Henderson.

Dr. Thacher's Sermon at the Ordination of his Son, from Deacon Nathaniel Hall.

Manlius, a political pamphlet, from Joseph Hall, Esq.

Another copy, from Mr. John Russell.

Laws of the State of North Carolina, printed 1773; a collection of Sermons preached before the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; a Volume of Sermons, by Rev. George Whitefield; The Grave (a poem by Blair), and Gray's Elegy in a Country Churchyard; Letters to the Earl of Hillsborough, by Bernard, Gage, &c.; Act of Parliament for granting Stamp Duties; Essay on the Constitutional Power of Britain over the Colonies in America, &c.; Letters from Governor Bernard to Earl of Shelburne; The Rights of Great Britain asserted against the Claims of

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* Niles's History was published in the Collections, in two parts; namely, in Vol. VI. of the third series, and Vol. V. of the fourth series. The four remaining manuscripts were published in Vol. IV. of the first series. — Eds.

America; Directions to the American Loyalists; Burr's Letter to the Dedicator of Emlyn's Inquiry respecting the Deity of Christ; Dr. Chauncy's Discourse on the Death of Dr. Mayhew; The Nature and True Use of Hadley's Quadrant; Letter from a Sea Officer of France to Admiral Keppel, French and English; and a Pocket Companion for Oxford. From Mr. George Deblois.

The Times, a newspaper, from the Editors.

Dr. Rippon's Baptist Annual Register, from Rev. Isaac Backus.

Five Pamphlets, from Mr. Gardiner Baker, of New York.

Several Election Sermons, from Mrs. Mary Phillips.

Swedenborg's Universal Theology. Vol. II. From Mr. William Hill.

A Sermon on the Independence of America, delivered at Harvard, July 4, 1794, by Rev. William Emerson. From the Author.

A Map of Plymouth Claim on Kennebeck River, from Messrs. Fleet.

The Revolution of France considered in respect to its progress and effects, and Effects of Slavery on Morals and Industry. Three copies, from the author, Noah Webster, Jr., Esq.

Dixon's Voyage Round the World, from Mr. Samuel Turell.

Extract from a Letter from a Gentleman in America to a Friend in England on the subject of Emigration, from James Freeman.

For the Cabinet: —

From the north-west coast of America: Three Indian Habits, a Model of a Canoe, a Sea Otter Skin, an Elk's Horn, two Water Baskets, three Caps, one Comb, a Stone Axe, a Lady's Work-bag and Thread, two Ornaments for the Lips, several Bracelets, Bows and Arrows, a Decoy Bird, several Harpoons, Lances and Buoys, a variety of Fish Hooks, samples of Cordage, Skin of the Glutton, Skin of the Silver Seal.

From the Sandwich Islands: Several Fishing Lines and Hooks, a Feather Dress, Feather Necklaces, a Stick to beat Cloth, a War Cap, several Spears, Bows, and Arrows, two Grass Carpets, a Tortoise-shell Spoon, a Drum, several Shells, samples of Cordage.

From the Ocean: The Skins and other parts of several Aquatic Birds, in good preservation.

All the above articles for the Cabinet are from Captain James Magee, collected by him in a late voyage round the world.

A Centipede and small Serpent, in spirits, from Pulo-Pinang, and the Bone of a Sting-ray, formed into the point of a war spear, from the Pelew Islands, from Mr. Stephen Hills.

Two Bills of Credit, issued by the Colony of Massachusetts, Aug. 18, 1775, from Mr. Joseph Clarke, of Northampton.

A specimen of Lead Ore from Worcester, from Mr. Bond.

An Indian Knife, for flaying the skins of animals, found at Killingly, Connecticut, from Samuel Danielson, Esq.

A Marble Knife, with a hardened edge, found at Smithfield, Rhode Island, from Peleg Arnold, Esq.

An Indian Axe, found at Amoskeag Falls, from Samuel Blodget, Esq.

A Guana and the Jaw and Backbone of a Shark, from Mr. Josiah Thompson.

Two natural Garnets, found in the district of Maine, from Mr. Thomas Peironnet.

A Stone, with the figure of a cross on it, from Rev. Dr. Thacher.
A Mezzotinto of President Washington, by Savage, framed and glazed, from Hon. James Sullivan.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Captain James Magee for his valuable donation, by the Corresponding Secretary.

Thanks, as usual, voted to the other donors.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Colesworthy for the ingenious communication made by him, and that further communications be requested.*

Voted, That Dr. Thacher, Judge Minot, and Dr. Belknap be a committee to wait upon his Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor, and request him to present to the Society the interleaved Almanacs of the late Rev. Thomas Prince, and any other papers in his possession relating to the history of New England.

Voted, That Messrs. Minot, Belknap, Freeman, and Eliot be a committee for superintending the publications of the Society for the year 1795.

Voted, That Judge Minot be added to the Committee for binding newspapers and the Collections.

Voted, That this Committee inform Mr. Belknap that, unless he immediately reprints the deficient numbers of the Collections, the Society shall think themselves under the necessity of employing another printer; and that the Committee be authorized to contract with a printer for that purpose.

Professor EBELING, of Hamburgh, chosen a Corresponding Member.

Nomination: Dr. John Coakley Lettsom, of London, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Webster.

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* See Vol. III. of the Collections, pp. 21-26. — EDS.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a special meeting of the Historical Society, on Saturday, the twentieth day of December, 1794, —

Voted, That the Corresponding Secretary write a letter to the Society of Arts and Sciences at Calcutta, by the name of the Asiatic Society, whereof Sir William Jones is President, and send such American publications as the Society shall direct, and propose a friendly correspondence between the two societies, and request their publications.

Mr. Joseph Belknap appeared, and gave notice to the Society that he could not continue to execute the business of the Society beyond the present year, upon the terms of the contract now subsisting. Thereupon,

Voted, That Messrs. Freeman, Minot, and Eliot be a committee to contract for the printing business the ensuing year, and report to the Society at the meeting in January what measures they may have taken upon the subject.

Nomination: Sir William Jones, President of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta, a Corresponding Member, by Mr. Winthrop.

Voted, That Mr. Winthrop be a committee to report a device for a seal for the use of the Society.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr. Mather's executors for the books deposited with the Society, and that the books be kept by themselves, and returned when demanded.

The following donations were received: —

For the Collections: —

An Account of an Uncommon Frost, May 17, 1794, by Rev. Nathaniel Thayer, of Lancaster.*

* Printed in Vol. IV. of the Collections, p. 44. — EDS.

For the Library: —

Williams's History of Vermont, Whitney's History of Worcester, and Imlay and Filson's History of Kentucky. From Isaiah Thomas, Esq.

Aphorisms of Wisdom, Treatise of Influx, Doctrine of Life, Heavenly Doctrine of New Jerusalem, and Arcana Cœlestia, from Mr. William Hill.

Nomenclature of Chemistry, and Present State of Learning in the College of New York, from Dr. S. L. Mitchill.

Four numbers of the Occasional Paper, 1717; An Addition to the Present Melancholy Circumstances of the Province (Massachusetts), 1719; Letter to John Clark, bookseller, 1719; Arguments for Markets in Boston, 1719; Account of Land Bank Scheme and Silver Scheme in Massachusetts, 1744; Testimonies of the Pastors of the Churches in Massachusetts against several Errors in Doctrine and Practice, 1743; Bp. of Peterborough's Sermon before the Society for Propagating the Gospel, 1751; Plymouth Patent, and Extracts from the Records of that Colony, 1751; Defence of the Remarks of the Plymouth Company, in answer to the Proprietors of Brunswick, 1753; Harrington's Century Sermon, 1753; Mellen's Sermon on the Conquest of Canada, 1760; Mellen's Sermon at a General Muster, 1756; Joseph Emerson's Sermon to a number of Soldiers, 1758; Samuel Cooper's Sermon on the Death of George II., 1761; Davies's Sermon on the Death of George II., 1761; Abraham Williams's Election Sermon, 1762; Edward Barnard's Election Sermon, 1766; Ebenezer Bridge's Election Sermon, 1767; Daniel Shute's Election Sermon, 1768; William Gordon's Election Sermon, 1775; Joseph Sewall's Sermon on the Reduction of Havannah, 1762; Votes and Proceedings of Boston, Nov. 5 and 18, 1773; Abstract of a Treatise on Hemp, 1766; John Tucker to James Chandler, 1767; Governor Hutchinson's Speeches, with the answers of the Council and Representatives, 1773; History of the War in America (eighty pages), 1780; Journal of Congress, 1774; and Narrative of Excursions and Ravages of King's Troops, April 19, 1775. From Theophilus Wheeler, Esq.

The Worcester Newspaper, for 1794, from the Printers.

A Map of Pennsylvania, from Mr. Reading Howell, the author.

For the Cabinet: —

A Glass Case, containing specimens of Minerals and Fossils, from Derbyshire, England, from Mr. William Hill.

Specimens of the Pearl Mussel, found in New Jersey, from Mr. Gardiner Baker.

A Chinese Balance, a Chinese Lady's small Slipper, and a Malayan Dagger, from Mr. Thomas H. Perkins.

The Skin of a Fisher, in good preservation, with the distinguishing characters, from Mr. Russell Sturgis.

A Paddle from Nootka, a Weapon used by the natives in killing deer, specimens of White and Green Earth from north-west coast, an Ava Bowl from Sandwich Islands, and a pair of Boots from Kamtchatka, from Mr. Stephen Hills.